

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| <b>Applicant:</b> MARTYN LOTT et al.            | <b>Examiner:</b> Lee, Sin J.   |
| <b>Serial No.:</b> 09/587,813                   | <b>Group Art Unit:</b> 1752    |
| <b>Filed:</b> June 6, 2000                      |                                |
| <b>For:</b> ARTICLE HAVING<br>IMAGABLE COATINGS | <b>Docket No.</b> 58575-278026 |

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## AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

This paper accompanies a Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently, and is responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed August 20, 2002. Please amend the application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 29, 38 and 39.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-21, 26-28, 31, 33-37, and 40 as follows:

- C/
1. (Three times amended) A method of treating a precursor, the precursor comprising a substrate and an imageable coating on the substrate, the imageable coating comprising a polymeric composition, the method comprising the step of heat-treating the precursor under conditions which inhibit the removal of moisture from substantially the entire surface area of the imageable coating, wherein heat-treating includes holding the precursor at a temperature of about 40° C or above for at least 12 hours.

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